

TRIBUTE TO AMY MEYER

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I rise today to congratulate a distinguished Illinois resident, Amy Meyer. Ms. Meyer is this year's recipient of the Service to America National Security and International Affairs Medal. This award honors Federal employees who have made significant contributions to our nation through their actions in the field of national security.

Since 2006, Ms. Meyer has served as the Director of the U.S. Agency for International Development's Office of Economic Growth in Pakistan. In this, her first Foreign Service assignment, Ms. Meyer has overseen an expansion of Pakistan's Office of Economic Growth from a small, two-person operation with a \$7 million budget into a \$200 million initiative.

Ms. Meyer has dedicated herself to leading the U.S. effort to foster economic growth in the country. Through her collaborative approach and the development of a wide range of programs, Ms. Meyer is bringing change to a country facing many problems, including a crippling energy crisis and the growing influence of the Taliban.

Of the many programs Ms. Meyer has developed, several focus on assisting the women of Pakistan. Among them is the Empower Pakistan: Agriculture Program. Through this program 1 million women will join dairy cooperatives where they will collect and store milk to be sold later at markets. Women who participate in this program will be able to earn income from these sales. Ms. Meyer also conducts focus groups for women in her own home and leads a yoga program which airs on Pakistani television.

As the 2009 Service to America National Security and International Affairs Medalist, Amy Meyer is honored for her commitment to working with the people of Pakistan to bring about economic growth and stability. I commend Ms. Meyer on her work in the Office of Economic Growth and congratulate her on receiving the National Security and International Affairs Medal.

FISCAL PRUDENCE

Mr. INOUE. Mr. President, I listened to the comments of the Senator from Alabama with interest.

I want to inform my colleagues that despite the rhetoric we have heard it is important to remember that the funds that we have recommended in the fiscal year 2010 appropriations bills are in accordance with the level provided to the committee in the budget resolution.

Second, each one of the bills that he mentioned was approved by the committee by unanimous, or near unanimous, votes.

Third, each of the bills considered by the Senate so far this year have been approved at the funding level that the Senator has noted.

In addition, in most cases—in the Transportation and Interior bills for

example—the level of funding approved by the committee is lower than the amount requested by the administration.

We are all concerned about deficits and overspending, but the root cause of this problem is not in discretionary domestic spending.

The cause was the failed policies of the previous administration that ran up trillions in our national debt.

To remind my colleagues when President Bush was elected the country had a budget surplus. After 8 long years, the country inherited an unprecedented national debt.

What is even worse, the Obama administration and the Nation also inherited a fiscal crisis unseen since Herbert Hoover.

While I understand and share the concern of many of my colleagues over our Nation's debt, they have set their sights on the wrong target. The increases in discretionary spending will reverse the neglect which occurred in the previous administration and will help put people back to work.

The Appropriations Committee will continue to work in a bipartisan fashion to recommend bills which are fiscally prudent and within the amounts recommended by this Senate.

MEMBERSHIP AND JURISDICTION OF COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the membership and jurisdiction of the Committee on Foreign Relations, be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

JURISDICTION OF THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS UNITED STATES SENATE

(Excerpted from Rules of the Committee)

RULE 1—JURISDICTION

(a) *Substantive.*—In accordance with Senate Rule XXV.1(j)(1), the jurisdiction of the Committee shall extend to all proposed legislation, messages, petitions, memorials, and other matters relating to the following subjects:

1. Acquisition of land and buildings for embassies and legations in foreign countries.
2. Boundaries of the United States.
3. Diplomatic service.
4. Foreign economic, military, technical, and humanitarian assistance.
5. Foreign loans.
6. International activities of the American National Red Cross and the International Committee of the Red Cross.
7. International aspects of nuclear energy, including nuclear transfer policy.
8. International conferences and congresses.
9. International law as it relates to foreign policy.
10. International Monetary Fund and other international organizations established primarily for international monetary purposes (except that, at the request of the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, any proposed legislation relating to such subjects reported by the Committee on Foreign Relations shall be referred to the

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs).

11. Intervention abroad and declarations of war.

12. Measures to foster commercial intercourse with foreign nations and to safeguard American business interests abroad.

13. National security and international aspects of trusteeships of the United States.

14. Ocean and international environmental and scientific affairs as they relate to foreign policy.

15. Protection of United States citizens abroad and expatriation.

16. Relations of the United States with foreign nations generally.

17. Treaties and executive agreements, except reciprocal trade agreements.

18. United Nations and its affiliated organizations.

19. World Bank group, the regional development banks, and other international organizations established primarily for development assistance purposes.

The Committee is also mandated by Senate Rule XXV.1(j)(2) to study and review, on a comprehensive basis, matters relating to the national security policy, foreign policy, and international economic policy as it relates to foreign policy of the United States, and matters relating to food, hunger, and nutrition in foreign countries, and report thereon from time to time.

(b) *Oversight.*—The Committee also has a responsibility under Senate Rule XXVI.8, which provides that "... each standing Committee ... shall review and study, on a continuing basis, the application, administration, and execution of those laws or parts of laws, the subject matter of which is within the jurisdiction of the Committee."

(c) *"Advice and Consent" Clauses.*—The Committee has a special responsibility to assist the Senate in its constitutional function of providing "advice and consent" to all treaties entered into by the United States and all nominations to the principal executive branch positions in the field of foreign policy and diplomacy.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS
MEMBERSHIP AND JURISDICTION
OF SUBCOMMITTEES

(July 21, 2009)

(The chairman and ranking member of the full committee are ex officio members of each subcommittee on which they do not serve as members.)

(Subcommittees are listed in the order of chairmen's seniority within the full committee.)

SUBCOMMITTEE ON WESTERN HEMISPHERE, PEACE CORPS, AND GLOBAL NARCOTICS AFFAIRS

CHRISTOPHER J. DODD, *Chairman*; ROBERT MENENDEZ; BENJAMIN L. CARDIN; JIM WEBB; KIRSTEN E. GILLIBRAND; JOHN BARRASSO, *Ranking Member*; JOHNNY ISAKSON; JAMES E. RISCH; and JAMES M. INHOFE.

Jurisdiction:

This subcommittee deals with U.S. relations with the nations of the Western Hemisphere, including Canada and the nations of the Caribbean. The subcommittee also deals with boundary matters, and U.S. policy with regard to the Organization of American States. This subcommittee's responsibilities include all matters within the geographic region relating to (1) terrorism and non-proliferation; (2) U.S. foreign assistance programs; and (3) the promotion of U.S. trade and exports.

This subcommittee also exercises general oversight over (1) all of the activities and programs of the Peace Corps; and (2) all U.S.

foreign policy, programs and international cooperative efforts to combat the flow of illegal drugs or substances.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON AFRICAN AFFAIRS

RUSSELL D. FEINGOLD, *Chairman*; BENJAMIN L. CARDIN; JIM WEBB; EDWARD E. KAUFMAN; JEANNE SHAHEEN; JOHNNY ISAKSON, *Ranking Member*; JIM DEMINT; BOB CORKER; and JAMES M. INHOFE.

Jurisdiction:

The subcommittee has geographic responsibilities corresponding to those of the Bureau of African Affairs in the Department of State. It considers all matters concerning U.S. relations with countries in Africa, with the exception of countries bordering on the Mediterranean Sea from Egypt to Morocco, which are under the jurisdiction of the Subcommittee on Near Eastern and South and Central Asian Affairs.

This subcommittee's responsibilities include all matters within the geographic region relating to: (1) terrorism and non-proliferation; (2) crime and illicit narcotics; (3) U.S. foreign assistance programs; and (4) the promotion of U.S. trade and exports.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS AND ORGANIZATIONS, HUMAN RIGHTS, DEMOCRACY, AND GLOBAL WOMEN'S ISSUES

BARBARA BOXER, *Chairman*; RUSSELL D. FEINGOLD; ROBERT MENENDEZ; EDWARD E. KAUFMAN; JEANNE SHAHEEN; KIRSTEN E. GILLIBRAND; ROGER F. WICKER, *Ranking Member*; JIM DEMINT; JOHN BARRASSO; and JAMES M. INHOFE.

Jurisdiction:

The subcommittee's responsibilities include all matters involving international operations and organizations, human rights, democracy, and global women's issues. This jurisdiction includes the general oversight responsibility for the Department of State, the Broadcasting Board of Governors, the Foreign Service, and public diplomacy. It also includes oversight responsibility for United States participation in the United Nations, its affiliated organizations, and other international organizations not under the jurisdiction of other subcommittees. Finally, it includes general oversight responsibility for U.S. policy in promoting democracy and human rights abroad.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND FOREIGN ASSISTANCE, ECONOMIC AFFAIRS, AND INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

ROBERT MENENDEZ, *Chairman*; BARBARA BOXER; BENJAMIN L. CARDIN; ROBERT P. CASEY, JR.; JEANNE SHAHEEN; KIRSTEN E. GILLIBRAND; BOB CORKER, *Ranking Member*; ROGER F. WICKER; JIM DEMINT; and JAMES E. RISCH.

Jurisdiction:

The subcommittee's responsibilities include general oversight responsibility for U.S. development policy and foreign assistance programs. It includes U.S. bilateral humanitarian, development, economic, trade and security assistance programs carried out by the U.S. Agency for International Development, the Millennium Challenge Corporation, and other U.S. agencies, and U.S. voluntary contributions to international organizations providing assistance to foreign nations.

It also includes matters related to: (1) international monetary policy, including U.S. participation in international financial institutions; (2) U.S. foreign economic policy, including export enhancement and trade promotion; and (3) international investment, protection of intellectual property, and technological transfer.

Finally, the subcommittee is responsible for matters related to international energy security and international environmental protection, including the oceans and space.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON NEAR EASTERN AND SOUTH AND CENTRAL ASIAN AFFAIRS

ROBERT P. CASEY, JR., *Chairman*; CHRISTOPHER J. DODD; RUSSELL D. FEINGOLD; BARBARA BOXER; BENJAMIN L. CARDIN; EDWARD E. KAUFMAN; JAMES E. RISCH, *Ranking Member*; BOB CORKER; JOHN BARRASSO; and JOHNNY ISAKSON.

Jurisdiction:

This subcommittee deals with all matters concerning U.S. relations with the countries of the Middle East and Arab North Africa. This subcommittee's geographic responsibilities also encompass U.S. relations with the countries of South and Central Asia, corresponding to the jurisdiction of the Bureau of South and Central Asian Affairs in the Department of State.

This subcommittee's responsibilities include all matters within the geographic region relating to: (1) terrorism and non-proliferation; (2) crime and illicit narcotics; (3) U.S. foreign assistance programs; and (4) the promotion of U.S. trade and exports.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC AFFAIRS

JIM WEBB, *Chairman*; CHRISTOPHER J. DODD; RUSSELL D. FEINGOLD; BARBARA BOXER; ROBERT P. CASEY, JR.; KIRSTEN E. GILLIBRAND; JAMES M. INHOFE, *Ranking Member*; JOHNNY ISAKSON; JOHN BARRASSO; and ROGER F. WICKER.

Jurisdiction:

The subcommittee has geographic responsibilities corresponding to those of the Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs in the Department of State and considers all matters concerning U.S. relations with the countries of that region. It also considers matters related to regional organizations such as the Association of South East Asian Nations and the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation.

This subcommittee's responsibilities include all matters within the geographic region relating to: (1) terrorism and non-proliferation; (2) crime and illicit narcotics; (3) U.S. foreign assistance programs; and (4) the promotion of U.S. trade and exports.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON EUROPEAN AFFAIRS

JEANNE SHAHEEN, *Chairman*; CHRISTOPHER J. DODD; ROBERT MENENDEZ; ROBERT P. CASEY, JR.; JIM WEBB; EDWARD E. KAUFMAN; JIM DEMINT, *Ranking Member*; JAMES E. RISCH; BOB CORKER; and ROGER F. WICKER.

Jurisdiction:

The subcommittee deals with all matters concerning U.S. relations with the countries on the continent of Europe (except the states of Central Asia that are within the jurisdiction of the Subcommittee on Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs), and with the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, the European Union and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe. Matters relating to Greenland and the northern polar region are also the responsibility of this subcommittee.

This subcommittee's responsibilities include all matters within the geographic region relating to: (1) terrorism and non-proliferation; (2) crime and illicit narcotics; (3) U.S. foreign assistance programs; and (4) the promotion of U.S. trade and exports.

SAME-SEX MARRIAGE RECOGNITION IN VERMONT

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, the U.S. Constitution, the document by which we define ourselves as a nation, empha-

sizes freedom and equality. Its words have inspired generations of Americans to create a society that sustains those values: one that preserves our freedom and reminds its citizens that we are all created equally. Among those who are leading the fight to protect this constitutional guarantee of equality are the people of Vermont, who I have been proud to represent for the past 34 years.

Vermonters have consistently led the charge to perfect our Union and to support the fight for equality and social justice. Vermont was the first State in our Union to outlaw slavery, and was also the first to adopt voting rights, regardless of property ownership. Vermont demonstrated its commitment to social justice years ago with the passage of inclusive hate crimes and employment nondiscrimination legislation. I hope our Federal Government will follow Vermont's lead with regard to these essential protections.

Vermonters have led the Nation by protecting families and by ensuring that children are in stable, loving environments. This is because Vermonters believe that parents should be allowed to strengthen their commitments to one another. In 2000, Vermont took a crucial step when it became the first State in the Nation to allow civil unions for same-sex couples. Recently, Vermont took another step to help sustain the relationships that fulfill our lives by becoming the first state to adopt same-sex marriage through the legislative process without a court mandate to do so.

I commend the Vermont State Legislature for its actions, and for setting aside partisan differences to serve the people of Vermont and to serve as an example for the Nation. Throughout the tumultuous debate on this issue, both chambers considered each side's viewpoint, and all points of view were heard. This was a real testament to our democratic process. Yet despite that debate, the Governor vetoed the legislation that was approved by the legislature.

The Vermont State Legislature has the distinction of being a part-time body. They work within the very communities they represent on a daily basis. During the debate, these legislators listened to their neighbors, their friends, and their constituents. During this process, they realized that marriage equality was something the people of Vermont wanted. Some members of the State legislature ultimately decided to put aside their personal views. They did not want to have such an important issue decided by a single vote. They did not believe that one person should be able to prevent what Vermonters were seeking—equality for all its citizens. In the end, several of the legislators who originally voted against the bill cast their vote to override the Governor's veto. I believe that the actions of those legislators and the entire Vermont Legislature deserve our admiration.